These EPA staff-level comments are being provided solely as technical drafting assistance and are intended for use solely by the requesting Congressional staff. The comments should not be construed in any way as representing the policy positions of the Agency or the Administration on this bill.

EPA Comments on Draft House Energy & Commerce Minority Staff Language on State Revolving Fund
Language for Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands
Shared with EPA on October 16, 2017

Legislative Language

Environmental Protection Agency

State and Tribal Assistance Grants

Of amounts previously appropriated for capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act to a State included as part of a disaster declaration related to Hurricane Maria, any amounts currently held in abeyance shall not be subject to the matching or cost share requirements of sections 602(b)(2), 602(b)(3) or 202 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act nor the matching requirements of section 1452(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act and shall be awarded to such state, Provided that, notwithstanding the requirements of section 603(d) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or section 1452(f) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the state shall use not less than 50 percent of such funds to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these; Provided further, that such funds may be used for eligible projects whose purpose is to repair damage incurred as a result of Hurricane Maria, reduce flood damage risk and vulnerability or to enhance resiliency to rapid hydrologic change or a natural disaster at treatment works as defined by section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or a public drinking water system under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act; Provided further that any project involving the repair or replacement of a lead service line shall replace the entire lead service line, not just a portion; Provided further, That such State may provide funds to an eligible project included on its intended use plan under Title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or section 1452(b) of the Safe Drinking Water Act or a supplemental intended use plan submitted by such State to the Administrator that includes preapplication information regarding projects to be funded using the additional assistance, including, with respect to each such project, a description of the project; an explanation of the means by which the project will address an eligible purpose in such State, the estimated cost of the project; and the projected start date for construction of the project.

EPA Technical Assistance

